Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper- 2**

**Set H**

***(Two hours)***

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

*You will* ***not*** *be allowed to write during the first* ***15*** *minutes.*

*This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.*

*The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt* ***five*** *questions in all.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets []*

**SECTION A- DRAMA**

*The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare*

**Question 1.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***I never did repent for doing good, nor shall not now: for in companions***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Whom are they spoken to? [3]
2. What is the definition of companionship as given by the speaker? [3]
3. How much is the cost bestowed by the speaker? For what? [3]
4. What does the speaker instruct Lorenzo later in the dialogue? [3]
5. Do we see a mischievous side of Portia at the end of the scene? Substantiate. [4]

**Question 2.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***If thou be’st rated by thy estimation, Thou dost deserve enough, and yet enough may not extend so far as to the lady.***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Who else is present at the scene apart from him? Where is the scene taking place? [3]
2. Explain these lines. [3]
3. How does the speaker contradict his words almost immediately? [3]
4. How is Portia praised later in the scene? [3]
5. Explain the gist written on the scroll found by the speaker later in the scene. [4]

**SECTION B- POETRY**

*A Collection of Poems*

**Question 3.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***He felt the cheering power of spring it made him whistle it made him sing,***

***His heart was mirthful...***

1. Who is ‘he’ in the poem? What made his mirthful? [3]
2. What did ‘he’ order his men? Why? [3]
3. How did the bell sink? Describe Sir Ralph’s reaction to it? [3]
4. What did Sir Ralph do after cutting the bell? [3]
5. Weather plays a significant role in the poem. Bring out its significance with examples from the poem. [4]

**Question 4.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***Whose woods these are I think I know.***

***His house is in the village though.***

1. What does the word ‘though’ signify? [3]
2. What is the symbolism of the horse finding the narrators halt queer? [3]
3. What time of the year are we talking of? How do you know? [3]
4. Which three noises are heard in the forest? [3]
5. How does the end of the poem appeal to you? [4]

**SECTION C- PROSE**

*Collection of Short Stories*

**Question 5.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***‘Alagu and Samjhu Sahu ! The panches have heard you and considered the issues carefully. It is their decision that Alagu is entitled***

1. What was the verdict given in the panchayat? [3]
2. What did Ramadhan Mishra urge after the verdict was given? What was Panchayat’s response to his request? [3]
3. What was Samjhu’s plea? What response did he receive? [3]
4. How did Alagu react to the proceedings? Did it reverberate with the other members of the audience? [3]
5. With what metaphor does the story end. Explain the metaphor. [4]

**Question 6.**

We should ‘Never say Never’. Justify this proverb in the light of the story ‘The last leaf’ [16]